AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting data over a medium, the method comprising the step of:

obtaining a back-off delay window for retransmitting a data packet, the back-off delay window obtained being based upon a number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or ~~a predetermined~~ an initial delay ~~initialized~~ value~~,~~; and

~~wherein the obtained back-off delay window is less than two times a preceding back-off delay window~~ if the number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or the initial delay value is an odd integer value, a formula for obtaining the back-off delay is $2^{((i+1)/2)}$, where *i* represents the number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or the initial delay value.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the obtained back-off delay window is found using a lookup table, developed in part based on the formula.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the lookup table comprises ~~predetermined~~ back-off delay window values determinable based upon a number times a given data packet is unsuccessfully transmitted.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein if the number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or the ~~predetermined initialized~~initial delay value is an even integer value, ~~the~~ a formula for obtaining the back-off delay is $(2^{(i/2)}+2^{((i+2)/2)})/2$, where *i* represents the number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or the ~~predetermined initialized~~initial delay value.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~A method of transmitting data over a medium, the method comprising the step of:~~

~~obtaining a back-off delay window for retransmitting an unsuccessfully transmitted data packet, the back-off delay window being obtained based upon a number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or a predetermined initialized value, and~~ wherein the obtained back-off delay window is equal to one of a preceding back-off delay window and a future back-off delay window.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, wherein the preceding back-off delay window is a back-off delay window which occurred immediately prior to the obtained back-off delay window.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the future back-off delay window is a back-off delay window which occurs immediately following the obtained back-off delay window.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~12~~1, wherein if the number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or the ~~predetermined initialized~~initial delay value is an even integer value, ~~the~~a formula for obtaining the back-off delay is $2^{(i/2)}$, where *i* represents the number of unsuccessful transmission of the data packet or the ~~predetermined initialized~~ initial delay value.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~18~~1, wherein if the obtained back-off delay window is less than a ~~predetermined~~ minimum back-off window, the obtained back-off delay window is set equal to a ~~predetermined~~ minimum back-off window.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the preceding back-off delay window is less than a maximum back-off delay window.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (New) A method of transmitting data over a medium, the method comprising the step of:

obtaining a back-off delay window for retransmitting a data packet, the back-off delay window obtained being based upon a number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or an initial delay value, and

if the number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or the initial delay value is an even integer value, a formula for obtaining the back-off delay is $(2^{(i/2)}+2^{((i+2)/2)})/2$, where *i* represents the number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or the initial delay value.

28. (New) A method of transmitting data over a medium, the method comprising the step of:

obtaining a back-off delay window for retransmitting a data packet, the back-off delay window obtained being based upon a number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or a predetermined initial delay value, and

if the number of unsuccessful transmissions of the data packet or the initial delay value is an even integer value, a formula for obtaining the back-off delay is $2^{(i/2)}$, where *i* represents the number of unsuccessful transmission of the data packet or the initial delay value.